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Title:Need to review the commissioning of Hydro-Power projects in ArunachalPradesh keeping in view its environmental impact on Assam.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (LAKHIMPUR): Attention of the Government is drawn regarding urgent necessity of making downstream impact assessment of all the rivers flowing through Assam valley, from Arunachal Pradesh and Bhutan on which Hydro Power projects are commissioned. During recent years, the Government of Arunachal Pradesh has given permission to large number of private companies and PSUs for setting up of Hydro-power projects without making any assessment in the downstream areas of Assam. In the past, neither adequate compensation nor any preventive measures for flood were taken up in the downstream of Ranganadi dam project. The sudden release of excess water from the Dam site during June this year, devastated huge downstream areas including Lakhimpur and Bihpuria town. The environment assessment for this project was conducted almost 13 years ago which needs reassessment. Meanwhile the channels of majority rivers are filled-up with huge silt deposition that blocked the main channel and diverted the course resulting in severe damage to cultivable lands in the downstream areas.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to make fresh downstream assessment of Ranganadi dam project before it is allowed to continue operation. Similarly the construction of Lower Subansiri Dam Project should be stopped till fresh assessment is made. Government should also ensure assessment of all other newly permitted dam projects to be commissioned in Arunachal Pradesh in consultation with the affected people and Government of Assam. Adequate compensation should be made to the affected people who have suffered due to sudden release of water from Ranganadi dam to Dikrong and Rangandi rivers.